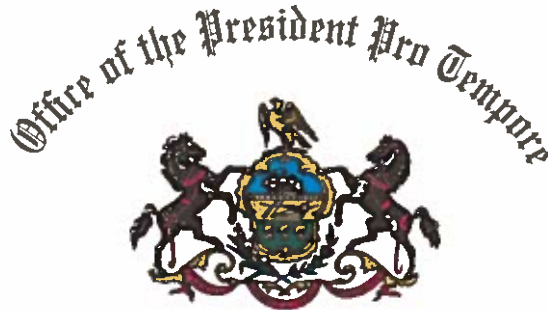
25TH DISTRICT
JOE SCARNATI

SENATE BOX 203025
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3025
(717) 787-7084
FAX: (717) 772-2755
www.senatorscarnati.com

DISTRICT OFFICES

BROCKWAY OFFICE:
410 MAIN STREET
BROCKWAY, PA 15824
(814) 265-2030
FAX (814) 265-2040

WELLSBORO OFFICE:
5 MAIN STREET
WELLSBORO, PA 16901
(570) 724-5231
FAX (570) 723-5119

Senate of Pennsylvania

November 29, 2018

Senator-Elect Lindsey Williams
70 Ashford Ave., Apt. 1
Pittsburgh, PA 15229

Dear Senator-Elect Williams:

I write in my capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

I have been made aware of the ongoing discrepancies concerning your residency in the Commonwealth. Although the final tallies of the vote in the 38th Senatorial District are not yet complete, I do not dispute that you received approximately 500 more votes than the Republican candidate. Hence, you are rightly holding yourself out as the Senator-elect for the 38th district.

Nevertheless, as you know, Article II, Section 5 of the Pennsylvania Constitution requires every individual to be sworn in the capacity of a state senator, to have resided within the Commonwealth for four years prior to election, in your instance, November 6, 2018. I have reviewed your voting history in Maryland as well as your registration to vote in Pennsylvania and question your qualification to be sworn in to serve in accordance with the Constitutional requirements.

In light of this information, I am requesting that you forward to my office within seven days of the date of this correspondence any or all of the following information:

(1) A copy of your driver's license, including any Pennsylvania or Maryland license you obtained from 2014 to the present.

(2) A full and complete copy of your 2014 employment contract that was cited in recent news accounts.

(3) Any local, state or federal tax withholding information that would be relevant to this inquiry.

(4) Any residential lease or residential purchase information relevant to this inquiry.

(5) Other information of your choosing that would be helpful.

Further, if you would like to request a hearing on this subject, I will assign Senator Gene Yaw, Senator Kim Ward and Senator Scott Martin to hold a hearing along with three senators of Senator Costa's selection. I will serve on the panel as a voting ex-officio member. I will schedule the hearing, if you request such, shortly after the seven-day period to produce the information requested. This would be an informal consideration allowed under procedural rules in light of the ongoing functions of the Senate in the month of December of every even year.

Please know that neither my caucus nor I have made any final determinations regarding this matter, but rather as the highest institutional officer of the Senate I need to set forth the process in order to ascertain whether it is patently demonstrative that you have the prerequisite evidence to allow the body to move forward with your swearing in. Article II, Section 9 places this responsibility firmly in the hands of the Senate for determination.

I have decided that while this issue regarding your residency is in flux, I will not object to you receiving your pay for the month of December or thereafter, hiring staff or other administrative duties as necessary. However, this should not be interpreted as an agreement to seat you come January 1st. If it is determined that you do not meet the constitutional requirements, the salary will need to be repaid.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and I am available to discuss it further if you desire.

Sincerely,

Joe Scarnati
President Pro Tempore

cc: Senator Jay Costa, Minority Leader